Statement

Loans to Organisations under National Women Fund in Tamil Nadu

Name of the District	No.of NGOs	1993-94 credit limit Sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)	No. of Women to be benefited
Madras	2	105.25	13,850
Dindigul	1	7.00	310
Madurai	1	7.98	1,330
			15,490
		1994-95	
Madras	2	35.00	1,420
Tiruchirapalli	1	6.75	270
Dharmapuri	1	22.00	803
Cuddalore	1	5.00	600
			3,093

National Social Assistance Scheme

1329. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently approved the National Social Assistance Scheme;

(b) if so, the details; and

(c) the number of poor persons that are likely to be benefited by this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The components of the National Social Assistance Scheme (NSAS) which are to be implemented through the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment, Government of India are:—

(i) Old Age Pension
(ii) Family benefit
(iii) Maternity benefit

All these benefits shall be available to the people both in Rural and Urban Areas living below the poverty line. The Old Age Pension component is to provide financial assistance to distitute of the age of 65 years of above. The amount of assistance is Rs. 75/- per month. The family benefits component is intended to give financial assistance in case of death of the primary bread winner in the age group of 20—60 of a family below the poverty line. Under this Scheme the amount of benefit is Rs. 5,000/- in case of natural death and Rs. 10,000/- in case of accidental death. Under the maternity benefit, a financial assistance of Rs. 300/- is to be given to a pregnant women of the age of 19 years or above upto two live births.

(c) The poor persons likely to be benefited under this Scheme are as the following:—

(i) Old Age Pension — About 5.3 million.
(ii) Family Benefit — About 3.5 lakh.
(iii) Maternity Benefit — About 4.5 million.

Condition of Widows in Eastern India

1330. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RE-